Technology Assisted Voting
Approved procedures for NSW State elections

Definitions and abbreviations

Term	Definition
Approved procedures	The procedures approved by the Electoral Commissioner under section 155 of the Electoral Act.
District	A district for the election of a member to serve in the Legislative Assembly.
Election	Includes by-election.
Electoral Act	*Electoral Act 2017* (NSW).
Electoral Board	The body appointed by the Electoral Commissioner to control the iVote system encryption/decryption process.
Electoral Commissioner	The NSW Electoral Commissioner appointed under the Electoral Act.
Eligible elector	An elector who meets any of the eligibility requirements for technology assisted voting by way of the iVote system under section 152 of the Electoral Act.
iVote Number	A unique eight-digit number for each elector who applied to use the iVote system.
iVote system	The voting system that enables technology assisted voting.
NSW Electoral Commission	The NSW Electoral Commission Staff Agency established under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*.
Password	A password of at least 10 characters, as chosen by an eligible elector when applying to use iVote.
PIN	A 10-digit Personal Identification Number, as chosen by an eligible elector when applying to use iVote.
Regulations	*Electoral Regulation 2018*.
Verification Service	A service that allows a voter to confirm that their vote is recorded in the iVote system as they cast it.

Introduction

The *Electoral Act 2017* (NSW) [the Act] provides for voting by eligible electors at NSW State Elections by means of technology assisted voting.

The NSW Electoral Commissioner [the Commissioner] has procured and developed a system for technology assisted voting in NSW elections known as the **iVote®**[1] system.

To facilitate use of the iVote system, the Commissioner may approve procedures in relation to technology assisted voting.[2] The Act requires that any such approved procedures must be consistent with a number of specified characteristics, which are:

- they must provide for elector registration
- they must provide for a record of electors who have voted using the system
- they must provide for authentication of votes
- they must provide for the secrecy of votes
- they must provide for secure transmission and storage of votes
- they must provide for the creation of image file of a ballot paper for each vote cast.

This document contains the procedures approved by the Commissioner for the use of the iVote system at any NSW state election (including by-elections) until new procedures are approved.

Under the Act, these procedures must be published on the NSW Electoral Commission's website.

The iVote system is available to electors who:

1. meet the eligibility requirements under the Electoral Act;[3]
2. appear on the authorised roll of electors at the time of issue of the writ for a NSW State election; and
3. apply to use the iVote system.

Other documents relevant to iVote procedures

Additional eligibility requirements

The NSW Electoral Commissioner is authorised under the Act to impose additional eligibility requirements for technology assisted voting by way of order published on the NSW legislation website.[4] This includes during an election period.

At the time of publication of these procedures, there were no such orders in force.

Limitations on eligibility

The regulations may limit the classes of electors who may be eligible for technology assisted voting.[5]

At the time of publication of these procedures, there were no such regulations in force.

Other procedures for technology assisted voting

The regulations may also make provision for or with respect to:

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[1] Registered trade mark of the State of NSW (New South Wales Electoral Commission).
[2] *Electoral Act 2017* (**Electoral Act**), s 155.
[3] Electoral Act, s 152.
[4] Electoral Act, s 152(2).
[5] Electoral Act, s 152(3).

a. the technology assisted voting method that may be authorised under the approved procedures;

b. the period during which voting by eligible electors using technology assisted voting is permitted (including a period before polling day);

c. the appointment by the Electoral Commissioner of officers to facilitate voting by means of technology assisted voting;

d. the independent auditing of the secrecy and authenticity of voting by means of technology assisted voting at any election;[6]

e. the provision of registered how-to-vote cards[7] in an electronic form to eligible electors voting at an election by means of technology assisted voting; and

f. provide that technology assisted voting is not to be used at a specified election.[8]

At the time of publication of these procedures, there were no such regulations in force.

Determination not to use technology assisted voting at an election

The Commissioner is authorised under the Act to determine that technology assisted voting is not to be used at a specified election.

At the time of publication of these procedures, there were no such determinations in force.

Publication of related documents

In the event any regulations, orders or determinations are made that impact upon these procedures after they are published, a link to those documents will be made available on the Commission's website together with these procedures.

Approved procedures

1. Electoral Board for Technology Assisted Voting

For each election, the Electoral Commissioner is to:

a. appoint an Electoral Board from senior officers of the NSW Electoral Commission to control the iVote encryption/decryption process,

b. determine the number of members and the quorum of the Electoral Board,

c. ensure each member of the Board holds a share of the cryptographic key to open the iVote ballot box and that a quorum of the Board will always hold sufficient shares to open it,

d. be a member of the Electoral Board.

2. Applying to use Technology Assisted Voting

1. The application period for iVote at an election will be published on the Commission's website.

2. A person must apply to use the iVote system by either:

   a. using a web based application service on the NSW Electoral Commission website; or

   b. telephoning the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre.

3. At the time of applying the applicant must provide:

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[6] Electoral Act, s 161.
[7] Being how-to-vote cards that are registered as electoral material under Subdivision 6 of Division 14 of the Electoral Act.
[8] Electoral Act, s 161(3).

a. details that identify them as being enrolled for the electoral district in which they claim to reside, i.e., their name, date of birth and address;

b. the iVote system channel they wish to use, i.e. iVote by Web or iVote by Phone (refer to Section 6 Voting method); and

c. a Password if they intend to vote using the iVote by Web or a PIN if they intend to vote using the iVote by Phone channel.

   NB: Either iVote system channel may not be available at an election.

   NB: A silent elector can only apply by telephoning the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre and will identify themselves on the roll of electors by providing their enrolment details to a Call Centre operator with special access rights.

4. The applicant will be advised if the details they have provided can be matched with an elector on the roll of electors for the relevant election. The applicant must then make a declaration that they are that elector and are eligible to use iVote by affirming the contents of a declaration displayed on the screen, or by listening to a declaration that is read to the applicant by the Call Centre operator and affirming the declaration verbally. For online applications, the declaration must be in the following form:

   I declare I am the person identified above.

5. For call centre assisted applications, an applicant must answer "Yes" to the following question that is put to them by the Operator:

   Do you declare that you are the person identified?

6. After enrolment has been confirmed, an applicant must specify the ground on which they are making the application. An applicant will only be able to nominate one of the following grounds to demonstrate their eligibility to use iVote:

   a. I am a person who is blind or has low vision, so I have difficulty voting at a voting centre or I am unable to vote without assistance;

   b. I have a disability (within the meaning of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*) and because of that disability I have difficulty voting at a voting centre or I am unable to vote without assistance;

   c. I cannot read or write, so I am unable to vote without assistance;

   d. My residence is not within 20 kilometres, by the nearest practicable route, of a voting centre;

   e. I am a registered silent elector;

   f. I will be interstate/overseas throughout the hours of voting on election day;

   g. I am a registered early voter (technology assisted voting);

   h. In relation to a by-election – I will not throughout the hours of voting on election day be within the electoral district concerned.

7. At the time of approval of these procedures, there are no registered early voters (technology assisted voting).

8. Persons who apply for iVote under paragraph 6 d. above can only apply online if they are enrolled in a district which the Electoral Commissioner has determined to be of a geographical size where it is possible that an elector's residence is not within 20 kilometres, by the nearest practicable route, of a voting centre.

9. The districts determined by the Electoral Commissioner under paragraph 8 will be published on the NSW Electoral Commission website for each election.

10. Persons who apply under paragraph 6 d. above, but are not enrolled in a district as determined by the Electoral Commissioner, may contact the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre to determine their eligibility and apply by phone.

11. During the application process, secondary confirmation of identity will be invited from the applicant, e.g., an Australian Driver Licence number, Australian Passport number or Medicare number. This secondary identity information will be used by the NSW Electoral Commission to confirm the applicant is the elector.

12. Electors who forget their Password or PIN can reset it by telephoning the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre before the close of voting for the relevant election.

3. Acknowledgement of application

1. If the secondary identity information described above is not provided, the application will still be processed but the elector will be sent a letter by the NSW Electoral Commission acknowledging receipt of the iVote application. If the applicant successfully provides the secondary identity information, the NSW Electoral Commission will not send an acknowledgement letter to the elector's enrolled address. An acknowledgement letter is also sent when an elector resets their Password or PIN.

4. Cancellation and blocking of applications

1. Electors may cancel their application via the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre.

2. An elector seeking cancellation of their application will receive a letter confirming the cancellation, which will be sent to the elector's enrolled address.

3. Cancelling an application does not prevent the elector from subsequently re-applying.

4. An elector will be blocked from applying online where:

   a. the elector is a silent elector on the authorised roll of electors, or is a "special elector" as declared by the Electoral Commissioner under Schedule 6 to the Electoral Act; or

   b. the elector fails to correctly provide their enrolled address (postcode, suburb/locality and street) during the application process.

5. Blocking an elector prevents the elector from applying via the internet; however, the elector can still apply via the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre.

5. Registration of eligible electors and distribution of the iVote Number

1. Eligible electors whose applications are successful will be registered by the NSW Electoral Commission to vote using iVote.

2. These registered electors will receive an iVote Number either by SMS or email.

3. Electors who have lost their iVote Number can have it re-sent by telephoning the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre.

6. Voting method

1. A registered elector may only access the iVote system by entering the Password or PIN they provided at the time of application with the iVote Number provided by the NSW Electoral Commission.

2. The iVote system may be accessed for voting by two channels:

   a. iVote by Web, which offers two options:

      i. using a computer, tablet or smartphone to cast the vote, where the elector logs in using their iVote number and Password, selects their preferences and then submits the vote; or

      ii. by calling the NSW Electoral Commission Voting Call Centre, where an election official (other than the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre operator who took the application call) will answer the call and enter the voter's iVote number and Password and ballot

preferences into the iVote system on the elector's behalf. All actions will be recorded and verified by another election official.

b. iVote by Phone, using an automated touch-tone telephone IVR (Interactive Voice Response) system to cast the vote, where the user is guided through the voting process through voice prompts and interacts with the system via the keypad of the telephone.

3. The elector can confirm their preferences prior to the vote being committed to the iVote system.

4. If there is any doubt as to the authenticity of a vote cast, or if the system indicates that it is a duplicate vote, the Electoral Commissioner or the Commissioner's delegate may reject the vote by removing it from the iVote system. This process will occur prior to the decryption of votes.

5. The rejection of any votes in the iVote system will be open to observation by appointed scrutineers. A record of all rejected votes will be retained, together with the evidence on which the rejection was based. All votes that were rejected will not be decrypted and will not be admitted to the count.

6. The iVote system will limit the elector to voting in the following ways:

a. The elector only assigns preferences as numeric values in a sequential order starting from the number 1, or for a referendum ballot the elector may select 'Yes' or 'No'.

b. Legislative Council ballots may only have preferences against one or more above the line groups, or against one or more below the line candidates, but preferences cannot be allocated to both.

c. The iVote System will not permit the casting of an informal vote other than in the following manner:

- Legislative Assembly or Referendum – not entering any preferences on the ballot, i.e., a blank ballot; and

- Legislative Council – a blank ballot both above and below the line. (When fewer than 15 preferences have been entered below the line, the elector is warned that the vote will be recorded as a blank ballot.)

d. The elector will receive an explicit warning when any of their ballot papers have been completed and they have provided fewer than the minimum number of preferences required. The warning will advise them that:

a) their vote is not complete and the relevant ballot will be treated as blank if submitted;

b) they have an opportunity to return to complete the ballot before submitting;

c) if they proceed to submit the incomplete ballot, it will be treated as blank and regarded as an informal ballot.

iVote by Web

7. The following words will replace the ballot paper instructions for the Legislative Assembly for the iVote by Web:

How to cast your vote for the Legislative Assembly

To mark a preference, click on the square next to the candidate of your choice. You can also move to a square by using the tab key, and then mark it by pressing the letter N on your keyboard. The first candidate you mark will get the number 1, the second will get the number 2 etc.

You must vote for at least one candidate.

You have the option to vote for further candidates.

Options available below the ballot on this page are:

- Undo last choice - removes your last preference
- Clear all choices - clears all preferences from this ballot
- My choices - displays preferences selected
- Previous page - returns to previous page
- Continue - saves preferences and goes to next page

8. There will be a special version of instructions when accessing iVote by Web using a mobile device due to the smaller screen sizes, as follows:

   To mark a preference, tab on the square next to the candidate of your choice. You must vote for at least one candidate.

9. The following words will appear on the ballot paper instructions for the Legislative Council for the iVote by Web service:

   How to cast your vote for the Legislative Council

   You can vote either above the line or below the line.

   Above the Line

   If you vote above the line enter your preferences by clicking on the square next to the Groups of your choice. You must vote for at least one Group.

   You have the option to vote for further Groups.

   You can also move to a square by using the tab key and then pressing the letter N on the keyboard to enter your preference number.

   There are [number of groups] Groups above the line.

   Below the Line

   If you vote below the line enter your preferences by clicking on the square next to the candidates of your choice. You must vote for at least 15 candidates.

   You have the option to vote for further candidates.

   You can also move to a square by using the tab key and then pressing the letter N on the keyboard to enter your preference.

   There are [number of groups] Groups below the line and a column of ungrouped candidates at the far right of the ballot.

10. There will be a special version when accessing iVote by Web using a mobile device due to the smaller screen sizes. The instructions for this will be:

    You can vote either above or below the line.

    "Above the Line" information

    If you vote above the line enter your preferences by tapping on the square next to the Groups of your choice. You must vote for at least one Group.

    You have the option to vote for further Groups.

    There are [number of groups] Groups above the line.

    Note: you will not be able to vote for groups without group voting squares. You can only vote for the candidates in these groups if you choose to vote Below the Line.

"Below the Line" information

If you vote below the line enter your preferences by tapping on the square next to the candidates of your choice.

There are [number of groups] Groups below the line and a column of ungrouped candidates at the far right of the ballot.

You must vote for at least 15 candidates.

You have the option to vote for further candidates.

11. The above instructions when accessing iVote by Web may also be available in selected languages to assist electors who do not use English as their first language.

iVote by Phone

12. The following words will be heard for the Legislative Assembly ballot paper instructions by way of the iVote by Phone IVR service.

Legislative Assembly

- You are now allocating your preferences for the Legislative Assembly ballot. This ballot is for the District of [district name] and contains [N] candidates, which are listed vertically.
- To move down the list of candidates press 8, or to move up the list press 2.
- When you hear the candidate's name of your choice, press 5 to allocate them a preference.
- You must allocate at least one preference in this ballot for your vote to count.
- To repeat these instructions, press star 1.
- To hear the first candidate, press 8.

Note: N equals the number of candidates on the ballot.

13. The following words will be heard for the Legislative Council ballot paper instructions by way of the iVote by Phone IVR service:

Legislative Council

- You are now at the Legislative Council ballot.
- You can select to vote either "above the line" by group, or "below the line" by candidate.
- To vote above-the-line for one or more groups, please press 1;
  To vote below-the-line for at least 15 of the [N] candidates, please press 2.
- To repeat these instructions, please press star 1.

  Note: N equals the number of candidates below the line on the ballot for the Legislative Council.

Voting Above the Line

- Above the Line:
- You have opted to vote Above the Line for the Legislative Council.
- Groups in this ballot are arranged horizontally.
- Please note that some groups only have a group letter as their name.
- There are [N] groups arranged across this ballot.
- To move right, press 6. To move left, press 4.

- To assign a group with a preference, press 5.
- You must allocate at least one preference in this ballot for your vote to count.
- When you have completed allocating your preferences, press the hash key and you will be prompted to review your vote.
- If instead you want to vote for candidates below the line, press star 7.
- To repeat these instructions, press star 1, or to hear the first group press 6.

Note: N equals the number of Group Voting Squares above the line on the ballot for the Legislative Council.

Voting Below the Line

- Below the Line:
- You have opted to vote below the line for the Legislative Council ballot.
- Please note: some groups only have a group letter as their name.
- To complete this ballot, you must assign preferences to at least 15 of the [N] candidates.
- If instead you want to vote for one or more groups above the line, press star 7 or to continue to vote below the line, press 1.
- Moving between groups: To move right, press 6. To move left, press 4.
- Moving between candidates within a group:
- To move down, press 8. To move up, press 2.
- Allocating a preference to a candidate: when you hear the candidate's name of your choice, press 5 to allocate them your next preference.
- To repeat these instructions, press star 1.
- To commence below the line voting, press 1.

Note: N equals the number of candidates below the line on the ballot for the Legislative Council.

7. Spoken candidate and party names

1. The NSW Electoral Commission will record the names of candidates and any affiliations as they appear on the ballot paper in the order first name, last name. All names will be spoken by the same professional voice actor in an even tone without emphasis.

2. All recorded candidate names will be made available on the NSW Electoral Commission website. They will be made available as nominations are published. Where practicable, all recordings will be completed and available by 6.00 pm on the Friday after the close of nominations.

3. Candidates will be referred to the NSW Electoral Commission website to check their details and listen to the recording of their name to ensure correct pronunciation.

4. If a name is incorrectly pronounced and the candidate contacts the NSW Electoral Commission to advise the correct pronunciation, that name will be re-recorded and replaced in the iVote system. The deadline for NSW Electoral Commission to receive advice correcting pronunciation will be 6.00 pm on the Saturday prior to the start of voting using iVote or as otherwise advised to the candidates by NSW Electoral Commission.

5. There can be no subsequent changes made to the recorded name.

6. There can be no changes made to the recording of the spoken candidate name if the candidate is unhappy with the voice, the tone or anything other than incorrect pronunciation, e.g., 'Smith' as opposed to 'Smythe', or 'Antony' as opposed to 'Anthony'.

7. The NSW Electoral Commission cannot guarantee correct pronunciation of any candidate name and can only provide the best pronunciation within the limits of the selected voice actor.

8. Voting period

1. The voting period for eligible electors will be publicised on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

2. Voting using the iVote system closes at 6.00 pm election day.

3. Any elector connected to the iVote system during the voting period may remain connected up to 60 minutes after the close of the voting period at 6.00 pm on Election Day, or up to 30 minutes for by-elections, to complete their vote.

9. Recording, transmission and storage of the vote

1. The iVote system will make a record of each elector who has voted in the following manner:

   a. At the time of application the elector provides either a Password or a PIN. The Password\PIN is immediately cryptographically hashed and then encrypted within the web browser and sent to the Registration System component of the iVote System.

   b. A unique credential is generated including the elector's iVote Number and the cryptographically hashed Password\PIN. The district for which the elector is enrolled is attached to this credential.

   c. When an elector accesses the iVote system to cast their vote, they are prompted to enter their iVote number and either their Password or PIN, which are validated to the stored credential. The elector receives a Legislative Assembly ballot corresponding to their enrolled district, a Legislative Council ballot if a general election, and a referendum ballot if applicable to the election.

   d. The iVote system stores a list of the credentials used to cast ballots. The separate Credential Management component is able to connect each credential with an individual elector. This enables NSW Electoral Commission to prevent multiple voting.

2. Technology assisted votes will be securely transmitted in the following manner:

   a. iVote by Web uses HyperText (HTTP) Transfer Protocol Secure and HTTP Strict Transport Security for connection to the iVote system. This ensures that all information is encrypted between the elector and the iVote system.

   Additionally, within the secure connection, the actual vote preferences are also encrypted within the voter's web browser before transmission to the server.

   b. iVote by Phone (IVR) uses the public telephone network to connect calls via a carrier that provides a secure data connection from their facility to the iVote system.

10. Authentication of votes

1. The iVote system will ensure that votes cast can be authenticated in the manner set out in this section.

2. The iVote system shall provide an elector with a receipt at the conclusion of their voting session.

   a. The receipt is stored within the iVote System as part of the encrypted vote.

   b. No identifying information about the elector or the vote preferences can be extracted from the receipt.

   c. Electors can check that their vote is held in the iVote system by accessing the iVote receipt checking website and searching for their receipt. This service is available during voting and for a period after the election.

3. The iVote system shall provide electors with the option of verifying their vote has been correctly stored as they cast it.

   a. Electors casting their vote using iVote by Web are shown a QR code (matrix barcode) on their web browser on submission of their vote.

     i.   Electors can scan the QR code with a second device using the iVote Verification Application made available by NSW Electoral Commission for both iOS and Android devices.

     ii.   Electors will then have to enter their iVote Number and Password.

     iii.   The iVote Verification Application will display the elector's preferences.

     iv.   Electors can use the iVote Verification Application to indicate if their vote is not as they cast it.

     v.   The elector can contact the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre to re-apply to vote again if their vote is not as they cast it; their incorrect vote will be set aside and excluded from the count.

  b. Electors casting their vote using iVote by Phone (IVR) can call the iVote telephone verification service.

     i.   Electors calling the iVote telephone verification service will have to enter their iVote Number and PIN.

     ii.   The iVote telephone verification service will repeat back their vote preferences.

     iii.   Electors can indicate if their vote is not as they cast it.

     iv.   The elector can be transferred to the NSW Electoral Commission Call Centre to re-apply to vote again if their vote is not as they cast it; their previous vote will be set aside and excluded from the count.

4.   At the conclusion of the election the fully encrypted ballots, which include receipts, are exported from the iVote system for decryption. The receipts from decrypted votes will be compared against the receipts held separately for checking by voters, as part of the audit process.

11. Secrecy of vote

1.   In conjunction with the secure transmission and storage of the vote, the following also applies to maintain the secrecy of technology assisted votes:

  a. On completion of a vote the ballots are encrypted and stored with all other ballots. The unique credential is linked to each encrypted vote which allows it to be linked to the elector, but only through separated components of the iVote system;

  b. encrypted ballots can only be decrypted and viewed in the presence of the Electoral Board;

  c. before decryption, all ballots are separated from the unique credential so they cannot be linked to the elector;

  d. the data in the separate Credential Management component that links the unique credential to the elector is destroyed; and

  e. as part of the decryption process, the ballots are randomised so that the order of the votes cannot be used to link them to electors.

12. Including the votes in the NSW Electoral Commission count systems

1.   The votes shall be decrypted and transmitted into the NSW Electoral Commission count systems in the following manner:

  a. Following the close of voting on Election Day, the Electoral Board will assemble to allow the iVote system to decrypt the stored votes.

  b. The decryption process allows for the randomisation of the votes prior to decryption, in a way that is mathematically verifiable.

  c. All ballots (Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council and Referendum, as applicable) when decrypted, are saved in a format that is capable of being viewed or printed if required for the purposes of the scrutiny.

d. All Legislative Assembly ballots proceed electronically to the NSW Electoral Commission computer count system or are forwarded to the Election Manager for the district for counting.

e. All Legislative Council ballots proceed electronically to the NSW Electoral Commission computer count system.

f. Any Referendum ballots proceed electronically to the NSW Electoral Commission computer count system or are forwarded to the Election Manager for the district for counting.

2. The number of valid votes transmitted into the NSW Electoral Commission count system/s shall be verified by the NSW Electoral Commission in the following manner:

a. Once decrypted at the close of the election, ballots cast via the iVote system are counted by the NSW Electoral Commission.

b. The following procedure of comparing the receipts of all ballots cast via the iVote Voting System with the receipts stored by the iVote Assurance System will occur within 48 hours of the decryption:

   i. the receipts from the Assurance System will be downloaded;

   ii. the receipts that accompany each encrypted vote from the iVote Voting System and, in addition, any receipts that belong to any cast but rejected vote in the iVote Voting system will be downloaded (note that rejected votes will not be decrypted); and

   iii. the two sets of receipts sorted and matched, to confirm both sets contain the same receipts.

   iv. The Electoral Commissioner may also appoint suitably qualified individuals to perform this comparison independently of that performed by the NSW Electoral Commission. Such individuals may also be asked to independently verify the NSW Electoral Commission's count of ballots cast via the iVote system.

13. Scrutineers

1. The Electoral Commissioner will provide to candidates and Registered Political Parties a written timetable of the events that scrutineers can attend.

a. Prior to the start of voting, scrutineers will be able to observe the process of securing the iVote system, the casting of test votes, verification of those test votes, the decryption of the test votes and the confirmation that the test votes entered into iVote match those output.

b. After the close of voting scrutineers will be able to observe the process of decrypting the votes in iVote and submitting them to the count.

2. Scrutineers must be appointed by a candidate or a Registered Political Party as provided for by the Electoral Act.

14. Audit programme

1. For each State Election, the Electoral Commissioner will appoint an independent auditor to report to the Electoral Commissioner at least seven days before voting commences and again with 60 days of the return of the writs.

2. The Auditor will determine whether test votes cast in accordance with these Approved Procedures are accurately reflected in the corresponding test ballot papers.

3. The NSW Electoral Commission and its staff will provide access to all procedures and requests by the independent auditor.

4. The Electoral Commissioner will publish the acceptance of the report on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

5. The audit plan and the controls to be tested will be published on the NSW Electoral Commission website prior to the initial audit report

15. Independent monitoring

1. The Electoral Commissioner may appoint one or more independent persons to monitor and observe the technology assisted voting process at an election, including the counting of votes cast by means of technology assisted voting and the general operation of the technology assisted voting process.

16. Additional integrity measures required for individuals involved with iVote

1. Any person handling iVote ballots (whether printed, encrypted, decrypted or plain-text) is to be appointed as an election official under the Electoral Act.

2. Any NSW Electoral Commission staff or election officials with access to the iVote source code or other security aspects of the computer infrastructure and sub-systems must also sign an acknowledgement of their obligations as to secrecy related to technology assisted voting and protection of computer hardware and software.

Document control

Document management

Approved by:	Signature:	Date approved:
John Schmidt *NSW Electoral Commissioner*	-	10/5/21

Revision record

Date	Version	Revision description
12.02.2015	1.0	Updated for 2015 State election
17.10.2016	2.0	Updated for November 2016 State by-elections
17.03.2017	2.1	Minor update for April 2017 State by-elections
05.02.2019	3.0	Updated for 2019 State election
07.02.2019	3.1	Minor changes showing the required corrections on pages 8 and 9
10.05.2021	3.2	Minor update for May 2021 State by-election